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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/023,732	12/21/2001	Peter Sladen	367.40991X00	5139

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EXAMINER

DUONG, THOI V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/023,732

Applicant(s)

SLADEN, PETER

Examiner

Thoi V Duong

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 July 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the Amendment, Paper No. 9, filed July 22, 2003.

Accordingly, claims 1, 7 and 13 were amended. Currently, claims 1-15 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-15 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

4. Claims 1, 2 and 4-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Umemoto et al. (JP 2001-215312).

As shown in Fig. 2, Umemoto et al. discloses a display assembly comprising:

a display 2;

an illumination source 5; and

a display window 1 for placement in registration with the display so that the display is viewable through the window, wherein a first surface (top of Fig. 2) of the window is for exposure to a user, and a second surface of the window is for placement

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adjacent the display, the second surface being provided with an incorporated grating 13 for distributing light from the illumination source in the direction of the display,

wherein the display is a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD);

wherein the illumination source is disposed between the display window and the display;

wherein the illumination source is one or more Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) (Detail Description, paragraph 60);

wherein the LCD is operable in reflective mode (Detail Description, paragraph 54);

wherein the grating comprises a plurality of grooves A;

wherein the first surface of the display window is provided with a stainproof layer 16 (toughened coating) and an anti-reflective coating 15 (Detail Description, paragraphs 43 and 44); and

wherein the window comprises a transparent film 11 formed of a polycarbonate material (Detail Description, paragraph 12).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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6. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Umemoto et al. (JP 2001-215312) as applied to claims 1, 2 and 4-12 in view of Brandt et al. (EP 1063561 A1).

Umemoto et al. discloses a display window that is basically the same as that recited in claim 3 except that the grating does not comprise a plurality of triangular projections. As shown in the only figure, Brandt discloses a reflective liquid crystal display having a light deflecting element 7 comprising a plurality of triangular projections for deflecting the light that is laterally incident on a light inlet surface 2 in the direction of a liquid crystal cell 5 to improve display readability (see Abstract). Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the display window of Maeda with the teaching of Brandt by having the second surface provided with the grating comprising a plurality of triangular projections for guiding laterally incident light in the direction of liquid crystal cell so as to enhance display brightness.

7. Claims 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Umemoto et al. (JP 2001-215312) as applied to claims 1, 2 and 4-12 in view of Imai (USPN 6,398,379 B1).

Umemoto et al. also discloses that the display window is used in a portable telephone (Detail Description, paragraph 2). However, Umemoto does not disclose a housing of the portable telephone as recited in claims 13-15. As shown in Figs. 1- 4, Imai discloses a portable telephone comprising:

a housing 24;

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a light source 4 and
a display 12,
wherein the housing is a front cover of the telephone; and
wherein the housing comprises a window 26 which is integrally formed with the housing.

Thus, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the housing of the telephone of Imai for the display assembly so as to obtain a display apparatus in which the component cost and assembly cost are reduced by reducing the number of components (col. 1, lines 28-30).

Conclusion

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

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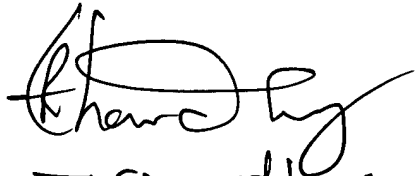
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thoi V. Duong whose telephone number is (703) 308-3171. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Kim, can be reached at (703) 305-3492.

Thoi Duong



10/03/2003



T. Cherdhuy
Primary Examiner